training, up-gradation of skills and improvement in tool-kits, equipments and production techniques. The resources have been accordingly directed through the plan porgrammes towards achieving this objective.

Supreme court's direction on child labour

3123. DR. ABRAR AHMED:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court's direction regarding the manner in which the children working in hazardous occupations, are to be withdrawn from work and rehabilitated, are strictly followed by all the State Governments;

(b) whether -Government monitor the action taken by the State Governments in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The implementation of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court is being monitored by the Government and compliance of the directions have been reported in the form of Affidavits on 05.12.1997, 21 -12-1999,04-12-2000, and 04.07.2001 to the Hon'ble Court on the basis of the information received from the State/UT Governments.

Assistance to workers abroad

3124. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of assistance provided to Indian workers in foreign countries once they are in distress, and

(b) the help provided to such workers during the last two years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Indian workers in distress abroad are provided temporary relief for meeting their financial needs in times of extreme difficulty. They are also assisted in their repatriation. Additionally, some

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Indian Missions/Posts abroad, particularly in the Gulf region, also operate Labour Welfare Funds with the assistance of the Indian community to cater to the needs of distressed workers.

(b) Such data is not maintained.

Closure of mills in Kanpur

†3125. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many families have committed suicide *en masse* as a result of closure of mills in Kanpur city and if so, the number of labourers committed suicide;

(b) whether Government are contemplating any measures to protect the labourers who are compelled to commit suicide as a result of helplessness; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that no such cases have come to their notice.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

Unemployment problem in J and K

3126. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for resolving the unemployment problem in Jammu and Kashmir during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the areas which would provide these jobs;

(d) whether any time frame has been set to create/generate the jobs; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) A Task Force was constituted to create one lakh employment opportunities over the next two years in Jammu & Kashmir. The Task Force has submitted its report recommending creation of atleast one lakh jobs during the period from August 2003 to August 2005.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.